UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/583,711	05/31/2000	Barry Stanley Barnett	AUS000165US1	5268

7590	12/16/2004	

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EXAMINER
JACKSON, JENISE E

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2131	

DATE MAILED: 12/16/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	09/583,711	BARNETT, BARRY STANLEY
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Jenise E Jackson	2131

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
  earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____ .
2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☐ This action is non-final.
3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-22* is/are pending in the application.
    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5)☒ Claim(s) *1-8 and 19-22* is/are allowed.
6)☒ Claim(s) *9-18* is/are rejected.
7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.
    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:
      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .
      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
          application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ .

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6)☐ Other: _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the

basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2.   Claims 9-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Blumenau et

al(6,260,120).

3.   As per claim 9, Blumenau et al. discloses a switch port including controller, receiver,

transmitter, non-volatile store, and memory, wherein the switch non-volatile storage includes a

first copy of a password table and a first copy of an encryption key(see col. 12, lines 27-54, col.

39, lines 18-54), a node including processor, non-volatile storage, memory, and a host bus

adapter, wherein the node memory contains at least a portion of a node software interface and the

switch memory contains at least a portion of a switch software interface(see col. 12, lines 27-54),

wherein the software interfaces contain instructions for retrieving a password from the first copy

of the password table in response to a login request(see col. 39, lines 18-54), using the password

to determine a first response, sending the password to the node, using the password to determine

a second response from the second copy of the password table, sending the second response back

to the node, comparing the first and second responses; and denying the login request if the first

and second response differ(see col. 39, lines 18-54, 55-67, col. 40, lines 17-43).

4.   As per claim 10, Blumenau et al. discloses including a key server application including of

a set of instructions for generating the encryption key and the key password table for the node

and switch(see col. 39, lines 18-54).

13.   As per claim 11, Blumenau et al. discloses wherein the key server application generates

an encryption key and password table for each node-switch pair of the network(see col. 39, lines

18-54, col. 40, lines 7-15).

14.   As per claim 12, Blumenau et al. discloses wherein the encryption key and password

table are stored on a portable storage device and manually distributed to the node(see col. 39,

lines 18-54).

15.   As per claim 13, Blumenau et al. discloses wherein the encryption key and password

table are distributed to the node(see col. 39, lines 18-54).

16.   As per claim 14, Blumenau et al. discloses wherein the key server application is executed

periodically to generate new keys and passwords tables(see col. 39, lines 18-54).

17.   As per claim 15, Blumenau et al. discloses wherein the first and second copies of the

password table are encrypted according to encryption key and wherein the software interfaces

include instructions for encrypting and decrypting the responses and the passwords according to

the encryption key(see col. 39, lines 18-54).

18.   As per claim 16, Blumenau et al. discloses wherein the node software interface further

contains instructions for reading a serial identification corresponding to a host(col. 12, lines 31-

37), generating a code value based upon the serial number, comparing the generated code value

with a previously determined code value; and denying access to the SAN if the generated code

value and the previously determined code value differ(see col. 40, lines 16-44, col. 41, lines 22-67, col. 42, lines 1-20).

19.   As per claim 17, Blumenau et al. discloses instructions for generating a code value are executed in response to an event selected from a power on event and a software reset(see col. 12, lines 31-33).

20.   As per claim 18, Blumenau et al. discloses wherein the switch includes a Fibre Channel compliant switch(see col. 12, lines 27-37).

21.   Claims 1-8 and 19-22 are allowable(see below for details).

Response to Amendment

22.   Claims 1-8, and 19-22, arguments by Applicant are persuasive and overcome art of record and prior art, the reasons why the claims are allowable: are listed below:
are allowable for the features of, "using the decrypted first value to retrieve a third value from a second copy of the password table"; "encrypting the third value according to a second copy of the encryption key and sending the encrypted third value back to a switch of the SAN"; "decrypting the third value according to the first copy of the encryption key and comparing the decrypted third value with the second value"; and allowing access to the SAN if the third value and the second value match".

23.   In the art of networking, prior art fails to disclose, "using the decrypted first value to retrieve a third value from a second copy of the password table"; "encrypting the third value according to a second copy of the encryption key and sending the encrypted third value back to a switch of the SAN"; "decrypting the third value according to the first copy of the encryption key

and comparing the decrypted third value with the second value"; and allowing access to the SAN

if the third value and the second value match", an Example of prior art in networking that does

not disclose this is, Blumenau et al. Blumenau et al. discloses a storage access network/Fibre

network(SAN) tat discloses an authentication method, which stores the unique secret key in the

host and port. Copies of the keys are stored in a list in the host and port. The port includes

random numbers(i.e. values). The random numbers and the keys are used by host and port to

authenticate. The host controller receives the random number and request verification from the

port adapter. The port adapter encrypts the random number with its copy of the host controller's

key. The port adapter compares the value from the host controller is they match access to the

storage system is granted. The random number is the first value of Blumenau, and the

encryption key is the password table. However, Blumenau et al. fails to discloses or suggest

using the decrypted first value to retrieve a third value from a second copy of the password

table"; "encrypting the third value according to a second copy of the encryption key and sending

the encrypted third value back to a switch of the SAN"; "decrypting the third value according to

the first copy of the encryption key and comparing the decrypted third value with the second

value"; and allowing access to the SAN if the third value and the second value match.

24.   As per claim 9-18 are still rejected under Blumenau et al.(see above). The Applicant

states that the Blumenau does not disclose a password retrieved from the password table is then

used to retrieve the response from the password table.   The Examiner disagrees with the

Applicant. Copies of the keys(i.e. password) are stored in a list in the host controller(see col. 39,

lines 27-28). The host controller receives the random number and request for verification from

the port adapter(see col. 40, lines 16-18). The port adapter encrypts the random number with its

copy of the host controller's key(see col. 40, lines 16-43).

Final Action

25.   THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time

policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO

MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after

the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period

will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37

CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing

date of this final action.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Jenise E Jackson whose telephone number is (571) 272-3791.

The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th (6:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.) alternate Friday's.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Ayaz Sheikh can be reached on (571) 272-3795. The fax phone number for the

organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

December 9, 2004
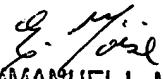
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